THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1772. THE NUMBER 304.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

Open to ALL PARTIES, but influenced by NONE.

NEW-YORK, *January* 23.

On the 7th of January the General Assembly of this province met here, when his Excellency the Governor was pleased to open the session with the following speech.

Gentlemen of the Council, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly,

WHILE I reflect on the important duties attendant on the elevated station in which it has graciously pleased my Royal Master to place me, and that I have the honour to succeed the Noble Personage who so justly merited the high applause he received from a grateful people, my heart is filled with every sensible anxiety; but when I review the honourable and affectionate addresses presented to me on my arrival, my spirits are cheered with the most pleasing expectations: That these may be realized, I am now to intreat the aid of your united and generous efforts in support of an administration, which can be only successful in proportion to the assistance I receive from you.

Through the extensive beneficence of my Sovereign, unsolicited and unexpected, I appear in the rank I now stand before you. Finding my own health, and that of my family greatly impaired by a southern climate, I had requested, and actually obtained, the King's leave to return to my native country; soon after which, three weighty objects presented themselves to my view: the circumstances of the province I was in, my appointment to this government, and the regard due to a family oppressed with sickness. On the one side, the support of a people, friends to the laws, attached to the constitution, and loyal to their Prince, was offered me, to suppress an insurrection that had even subverted their civil liberties; on the other, my inclination led me to accept the more cordial invitation to this climate, where I expected to reap those benefits which my family have since, in a great measure, experienced in their health; public duty, however, prevailing over every other passionate desire, my honour and my services I held engaged in the public cause, free from any motive of revenge, or feeling other resentment than what sprung from a sense of my country's wrongs. The enterprize was successful, and the event

It is nevertheless with the greatest pleasure we declare, that we have the fullest confidence in your Excellency; and that we consider the commission of the province to your care, as a fresh proof of the paternal affection of which his Majesty has given us ample and constant experience: And in proportion to the honour you acquire, from its being the unsolicited act of his Royal wisdom and munificence, is the satisfaction it affords to us.

Sensible of the necessity of government for the enjoyment and preservation of freedom, we cannot withhold this public testimony of our applause for that spirited and prudent conduct, by which you lately restored order and the blessings of peace to a neighbouring colony, and suppressed an insurrection subversive of the civil liberties of that country: The honour of that enterprize is the greater, for the risk to which you exposed yourself, and crowned by the consideration of your voluntary submission to that important and necessary service.

We feel a singular happiness in the assurance we give your Excellency, that the loyal and affectionate fidelity of this province, will call your attention, to the more agreeable office of cultivating its prosperity, by the arts of policy and peace. Qualified and inclined as you are, to support the dignity of the crown, and defend the rights and liberties of the subject, we entertain the most flattering hopes, that the steady pursuit of these great and inseparable objects, will raise the colony now under your direction to a state of the highest felicity.

We rejoice with you, Sir, in the recovery of your own, and the health of your family; and shall be ever ready to contribute our aid, to your private ease, the honour and success of your government, and the advancement of the true interest of the community.

By order of the Council,

D. HORSEMANDEN, *Speaker.*

His Excellency's ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN,

I RETURN you my sincere thanks for your congratulations on my appointment to the command of this colony.

The liberality of your sentiments respecting my late public services, with the assurance

The several matters recommended by your Excellency, shall be considered with the most serious attention.

The favourable hopes your Excellency entertains of future happiness among us, cannot fail of being crowned with success, while you are influenced by principles which flow from an honest heart; and you may be assured, that we shall be ready at all times to co-operate with you in every measure that will best promote the honour and dignity of his Majesty's government, and advance the prosperity of an affectionate and loyal people.

By order of the General Assembly,

JOHN CRUGER, *Speaker.*

His Excellency's ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN,

ACCEPT the tribute of my warmest thanks, as well for your obliging congratulations on my arrival in this government, as for the benevolent sentiments contained in your address.

The extensive point of view in which you regard my late public endeavours, affords me a very singular satisfaction. I shall ever feel, in all its force, the honour of your applause.

It is my ambition to act with you on the most generous maxims of government; and be assured, the most refined pleasure I can attain to, must arise from a conscious discharge of my public duty; in that pursuit, the friendly assurances you give me of your aid, add new life to my hopes, and confidence to my wishes.

WILLIAM TRYON.

To A. W.

SIR,

THE evening you spent at my lodgings our conversation turned upon the much agitated dispute concerning a toleration of Protestant Dissenters in this province. It was proposed, you informed me, to grant them the same indulgence as is allowed by the famous statute of the 1st of William and Mary. By this statute all dissenting teachers are obliged to subscribe the articles of the church of England, except such as relate to church government, rites, and ceremonies, and infant baptism.

such sentiments, cannot subscribe the 9th, 10th, 13th, and 17th articles of our church.

Let us now turn our eyes to the *reformed churches*. Numbers of the * German Calvinists have universally departed from the principles of their master. They not only maintain the doctrine of free will, but in many respects approach to the opinions of Pelagius. They also, in their notions concerning the Lord's supper, differ both from the Lutherans, and the church of England. For while the former profess to eat the *real body*, and the latter teaches her children they eat it in a *spiritual manner*, they consider the bread and wine only as signs or symbols of the *absent body and blood* of Christ, and consequently will object to the said 9th, 10th, 13th, 17th, and 28th articles of our church.

The Dutch Mennonites have also greatly degenerated from the orthodoxy of their ancestors. Most of them deny the *divinity of our blessed Saviour, original sin, predestination, the necessity of grace, and that our Lord has now the same body with which he ascended to Heaven. They also assert that the body of Jesus was not derived from the substance of the Virgin Mary, but created in her womb.* A branch of them, the Galenists, likewise deny *the divine authority of Solomon's Songs, and the story of the fight between the Devil and Michael, contained in the book of Jude.* The 1st, 2d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 17th, 18th, 20th, 25th, 27th, 28th, 31st, and 34th, articles will therefore prevent their conformity according to the prescriptions of the act.

The tenets of the Moravians are so very obscure that I do not chuse to say any thing concerning them. But as they profess themselves a branch of the Lutheran church, what I asserted of the former may be applied to the latter. Besides these we have many sects little known in the lower parts of the country, such as the Dunkards, Collegians, &c.

I will now ask you one or two plain questions: Would you chuse to compel many of the most useful, peaceable members of the community to *emigrate?* Have you an inclination to enrich the neighbouring colonies at our expence? Is Virginia become too populous, or are arts and manufactures in so flourishing a condition as to justify the expulsion of a great part of our fellow subjects?

The scheme I could wish to see adopted is this. Instead of demanding a subscription to any of the articles of the church of England, extend your toleration to all who will subscribe to the belief of a Supreme Being, his government of the universe, and the obligations of morality. If this be not sufficient (though I be thoroughly persuaded it is) add the truth of the christian religion. In a toleration of this kind will be comprehended persons of every denomination, and the conditions of it being such as I laid down in the beginning of this letter, the peace of society will be effectually secured. Fresh inhabitants will be induced to settle amongst us, manufactures flourish, and the value of our lands be daily encreased.

There are likewise two other reasons for our adopting [illegible] toleration. The first is the influence

RAPPAHANNOCK, *February* 9, 1772.

Mr. RIND,

Your inserting what follows will much oblige a constant reader.

AS gross, as malicious, and as foolish a piece of scurrility, appeared in Mess. Purdie and Dixon's Gazette, January 9, 1772, as I have ever seen in any paper; the author is a certain Cornelius Calvert, of the borough of Norfolk.

It is a common, and I believe a true observation, that silence and a good address cover many infirmities; how unfortunate was it for this man not to be acquainted with this maxim in life? How egregiously does he expose himself? He gives it under his own hand, that he is no Gentleman, that he is no scholar, and what really shocks me, that he is no christian. A stupid recapitulation of disputes arising from inoculation, near Norfolk, in June 1768, in which he himself was a principal, with I know not how many ungenteel false aspersions on Gentlemen of known honour and probity, is the sum total of his piece. The whole affair was so long and so warmly agitated on both sides before the Supreme Court of this colony, to the great interruption of business of more consequence, and the prejudice of many individuals, that I may venture to say nine tenths in the colony wish never more to hear a syllable about it.

What then in the name of wonder could induce this Cornelius to blow the coals again, which time had almost extinguished? Will his unrelenting heart never be glutted? Sure some evil genius must be his Guardian Angel!

When men of learning and abilities enter the lists, on literary subjects, the reader is entertained and instructed; but when such execrable scribblers take up the pen, and demand the public attention, what do they merit?

I own I expected for some time to see an answer; but, on more serious reflection, I apprehend the Gentlemen pointed at are so conscious of their just and upright conduct, not only on that, but on every other occasion, that they are willing to submit their reputations to the candid and impartial public, and bid defiance to all the calumnies of this angry obstinate man; a reply therefore, would have only fed his insatiable appetite with more venom, to be disgorged again as soon as the vacuums in his head, in his heart, &c. &c. became filled. To treat it then with silent contempt was to treat it as it deserves, and as Solomon adviseth "answer not a *fool* according to his *folly*, lest thou also be like unto *him*; a whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the *fool's back*." I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

AMICUS.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 5.

By an act of Common Council of this city, passed the 15th of January last, it is ordered, "that all coal, or grain of any kind, offered for sale, and sold at either of the ports or landings, or in the said city, after the first day of May next, shall be by Winchester measure, agreeable to the standard of the exchequer in England; and at the time of the delivery thereof shall be measured by [illegible] as the Court of Hustings shall for that

be passed by the General Assembly of this Colony, for that Purpose.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee that a Sum, not exceeding six thousand Pounds, be [illegible] by the Treasurer of this Colony, to the said Commissioners, to enable them to carry on the said Building, and that a Duty be laid on the Tonnage of all Ships, and other Vessels, coming into this Colony, other than from *Maryland*, to repay so much as shall be expended in erecting the said Light-House, and to provide a proper Fund for lighting and supporting the same.

The first Resolution being read a second Time, was, upon the Question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second Resolution being read a second Time;

And the Question being put that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution;

The House divided.

The Noes went forth.

Teller for the Yeas Mr. *Nelson* 34

Teller for the Noes Mr. *Edmund Pendleton* 25

So it was resolved in the Affirmative.

The subsequent Resolutions of the Committee being severally read a second Time, were, upon the Question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That a Bill or Bills be brought in pursuant to the first and second Resolutions; and that the Committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That a Bill or Bills be brought in pursuant to the third and fourth Resolutions; and that the Committee of Trade do prepare and bring in the same.

FRIDAY, *February* 28

A Message from the Governor by Mr. *Blair*.

Mr. Speaker,

The Governor is now ready to receive the Address of your House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker, with the House, went, and, being returned, he reported, that the House had attended the Governor, with their Address, to which his Excellency was pleased to give this Answer:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

I AM obliged to you for your polite Address; and as you are of Opinion that the Fees received by the Clerks of my Predecessors, for issuing public Commissions were illegal, I will not only take Care that my Clerk shall not in future receive any, but also that he shall return those which he has received since my Arrival in this Colony.

Resolved, Nemine Contradicente, That the [illegible] and grateful Thanks of this House be returned to his Excellency the Governor, for the kind and obliging Answer he was pleased to make to the Address of this House.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Edmund Pendleton*, Mr. *Cary*, and Mr. *Richard Henry Lee*, do wait upon his Excellency with the said Resolution.

DYING strictly enjoined by my late instructions to en-